

REMARKS

Claims 1-26 are pending in this application. No claims have been added. Claims 12, and 23-24 have been cancelled. Therefore, after entry of this Amendment, claims 1-11, 13-22, 24, and 25 will be pending in the instant application.

Claims 1-8, and 18-22 have been indicated as allowable.

Claims 12-16 and 25-26 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants wish to thank Examiner for allowable subject matter. Applicants have amended claim 9 to have the limitations of claims 9 and 12 which was indicated as allowable. Claim 13 was re-written into independent form to have the limitations of claims 9 and 13. Claims 25 and 26 were re-written into independent form to have the limitations of themselves and claim 23.

Claim Objections

Claims 1, 2, and 18 have been objected to for informalities. Applicants have amended the claims to correct the informalities.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 9-11, 17, 23-24 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Raleigh et al. (United States patent Number 6,144,711). This rejection is moot based on the amendments to claim 9 and canceling of claims 23 and 24. Claim 17 is dependent upon claim 9 which has been amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 12.

In light of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the instant application is in condition for allowance, and notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

While it is believed that the instant response places the application in condition for allowance, should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned in order to expeditiously resolve any outstanding issues.

Respectfully submitted:

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